

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6857

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 4581

E.O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ES, HO

SUBJ: SALVADOR/HONDURAS DISPUTE

1. IN CONVERSATION TODAY WITH FONMIN BORGONTVO, I ASKED HIM WHETHER THE SALVADOR/HONDURAS DISPUTE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY PRESIDENT MOLINA WITH THE VISITING DIGNITARIES ODUBER AND SOMOZA.

2. BORGONOVO SAID THAT THIS SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN ANY MEETINGS IN WHICH HE HAD PARTICIPATED. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE THREE PRINCIPALS HAD A NUMBER OF PRIVATE SESSIONS TOGETHER, BUT SAID THAT PRESIDENT MOLINA HAD BRIEFED HIM SUBSEQUENTLY ABOUT HIS CONVERSATIONS AND THAT THE SALVADOR/HONDURAS DISPUTE DID NOT APPEAR AS A TOPIC WHICH THEY HAD DISCUSSED TO ANY EXTENT. PRESIDENT MOLINA WAS HOPEFUL THAT SOMOZA'S DECEMBER 1 GATHERING OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE MIGHT PRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A

RENEWED EFFORT TOWARD SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE. BORGONOVO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE TOLD MOLINA THAT IN HIS JUDGEMENT IT WOULD BE UNLIKELY THAT ANYTHING MEANINGFUL COULD BE ACHIEVED
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AT THIS BRIEF AND RANDOM ENCOUNTER, PARTICULARLY IN THE ABSENCE

ON EITHER SIDE OF ANY PREPARATIONS OR PRIOR CONSULTATIONS
ON WHAT CS TO BE DISCUSSED. BORGONOVO DOES NOT CONSIDER
EITHER MOLINA OR LOPEZ ARELLANO AS A FREE AGENT CAPABLE OF
NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT SINCE BOTH MUST RELY ON APPROVAL BY
KEY ELEMENTS BACK HOME. SO HE IS NOT AT ALL SANGUINE ABOUT
WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE CHIEFS OF STATE IN ONE DAY IN
MANAGUA.

3. BORGONOVO WILL BE IN MANAGUA FOR THE SEVERAL DAYS OF CEREMONY
PROCEEDING SOMOZA'S INAUGURATION, AS WILL BE THE OTHER
CENTRAL AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS, AND THIS MIGHT OFFER SOME
OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPLORATION. HE IS FULLY CONSCIOUS THAT THE
COURSE THE GOH PURUSES BEFORE THE OAS COMMITTEE OF SEVEN
WILL DETERMINE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR BILATERAL NEGOTIATION
BETWEEN THE DISPUTANTS.
CAMPBELL

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